

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated May 1, 2003. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

With respect to the proposed drawing correction, the Office Action Summary correctly notes the filed proposed drawing correction, but fails to indicate whether the drawing correction was approved or disapproved. Clarification is requested. Furthermore, the Office Action Summary indicates that a Draftsperson Patent Drawing Review form was to be attached. However, no copy of the Draftsperson Patent Drawing Review was included. Applicants respectfully request that a copy of this form be sent.

The Office Action objected to the title of the invention as being imprecise. Accordingly, a new proposed title is submitted. If the title is still not satisfactory, Applicants request that a substitute title be proposed by the Examiner.

The Office Action rejected claims 15 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Letcher, US Patent 4,786,829. According to the Office Action, Letcher shows a bit stream processor in figure 3 comprising a memory 18 having an input X1, an opcode input Y1 and an output Y2.

With regard to the opcode, claim 15 recites, in part,

an opcode input of said memory for inputting a selected one of one or more opcodes, which selected one of said one or more opcodes operates on said input combinations.

In accordance with the specification, an "opcode" controls the desired logical operations to be performed on the serial bit streams input (page 27, lines 24-25). The "opcode" is also called a "function bit map" (page 34, line 22). The opcodes operate on said input combinations by designating the function that will be applied to the input combinations.

Letcher, on the other hand, teaches a latched input X1 and a latched feedback input Y1. The function f of memory 18 is not defined by Y1, rather Y1 is one of the variables fed into the function. As defined in column 2, line 54, $Y(t+T) := f(X(t), Y1(t))$ and in claim 6, $Y := F(X, Y)$. Y1 does not "operate on said input combinations," but is in fact one element of the input combinations.

Claim 25 includes the limitation:

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the selected one of the one or more opcodes operates on the input combinations

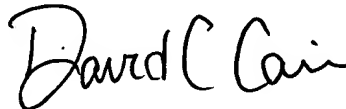
Again, Letcher does not disclose an opcode that operates on the input combinations. As such, Letcher does not anticipate claims 15 or 25.

Ohta, et al., which the Office Action used to reject claims 16, 21, 23, 24, 26, 31, 33 and 34, does not disclose an opcode that operates on input combinations.

The dependent claims, by virtue of their dependence on the independent claims 15 and 25, are neither anticipated nor obvious for the same reason.

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt in order to place this case in condition for allowance. For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of the claims as amended. Please charge any additional fees or deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0780/OGPT-24,727 of HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

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July 31, 2003

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